## Message Text

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2.1

**ACTION NEA-10** 

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 PM-04 NSC-05 SS-15 /069 W

----- 012966 O R 240620Z JAN 76

O R 240620Z JAN 76
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3591
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 1207

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: IN, FR, BG, PK, PFOR

SUBJECT: MRS. GANDHI ON FOREIGN PRESSURES

1. SPEAKING AT A JANUARY 23 BANQUET GIVEN IN HONOR OF VISITING FRENCH PRIME MINISTER CHIRAC, MRS. GANDHI AGAIN ALLUDED TO FOREIGN PRESSURES ON INDIA. PRESS REPORTS QUOTE HER AS REFERRING TO THE QUOTE STRANGE SPECTACLE OF INDEPENDENCE BEING SUBVERTED IN THE NAME OF FREEDOM AND MEANS OF COMMUNICATION EMPLOYED NOT TO INFORM BUT TO OBSCURE. WE IN INDIA ARE SPECIALLY CONSCIOUS OF THE CONSTANT NEED TO RESIST PRESSURES AND TO USE POWER FOR THE LONG TERM GOOD OF OUR PEOPLE, EVEN IF OUR ACTIONS ARE MISREPRESENTED UNQUOTE. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, THE PRIME MINISTER PRAISED FRANCE'S INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY AND OBSERVED THAT "GLOBAL PEACE AND SECURITY CAN BE MAINTAINED ONLY ON THE BASIS OF EQUALITY AMONG NATIONS, REJECTING OLD ATTITUDES OF EXPLOITATION AND DOMINATION."

2. ON ECONOMIC MATTERS, THE PRIME MINISTER POINTED OUT THAT INDIA WAS AMONG THE COUNTRIES HIT HARDEST BY THE RECENT CHAIN OF ECONOMIC CRISES, STATING: "WE ARE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEVELOPED ENOUGH TO NEED OIL, BUT NOT RICH ENOUGH TO AFFORD

## ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF ENERGY."

- 3. IN HIS REMARKS DURING THE FIRST DAY OF HIS VISIT TO INDIA, CHIRAC IS REPORTED IN THE PRESS TO HAVE WELCOMED THE COMMON DESIRE OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE SUB-CONTINENT TO REJECT TEMPTATIONS OF CONFRONTATION AND EGOISM AND TO IMPART TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION, RESPECT TO THE INDEPENDENCE AND IDENTITY OF NATIONS AND THE NEED FOR SOLIDARITY.
- 4. FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS EARLIER IN THE DAY WITH MRS.
  GANDHI, CHIRAC TOLD THE PRESS THAT "WE FOUND THAT ON
  MATTERS DISCUSSED CONCERNING WEST ASIA, AFRICA, ASIA,
  AND EUROPE WE HAD ABOUT THE SAME POINTS OF VIEW AND AIMS."
  HE REFERRED TO A CONVERGENCE OF INDIAN AND FRENCH VIEWS
  ON SOUTHEAST AND WEST ASIA AND THE EFFORTS OF BOTH NATIONS
  TO BRING ABOUT AN "EQUILIBRUIM BETWEEN GREAT POWERS."
  HE SAID THAT FRANCE HOPES "TO HAVE BETTER LINKS BETWEEN
  INDIA AND THE EEC IN THE FUTURE."
  SCHNEIDER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

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